Please amend page 10, line 1 as follows:

~~Claims~~ **What is claimed is:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A process for the production of iohexol comprising alkylating 5-(acetamido)-N,N'-bis(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)-2,4,6-triiodoisophtalamide with a 2,3-dihydroxypropylating agent in the presence of a base and of a solvent which solvent comprises a C_1-C_5-monoalkylether of a C_3-C_{10} alkylene-glycol.

2. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said glycol is 1-methoxy-2-propanol.

3. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ further comprising one or more co-solvents.

4. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein said co-solvents comprise C_1-C_4 alkanols, preferably methanol, and/or water.

5. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 3 ~~or 4~~ wherein said solvent comprises 1-methoxy-2-propanol and 0-40 volume% of methanol.

6. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 3 ~~or 4~~ wherein said solvent comprises 1-methoxy-2-propanol and 0-20 volume% of water.

7. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 wherein said solvent is used in an amount of 0.5 to 5 ml, more preferred 0.7 to 3 ml and most preferred 0.9 to 1.0 ml per gram 5-Acetamide.

8. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims~~ claim 1 further comprising purifying the crude iohexol obtained from the N-alkylation reaction using a solvent comprising a C_1-C_5-monoalkylether of a C_3-C_{10} alkylene-glycol.

9. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 8 ~~where~~ wherein the C_1-C_5-monoalkylether of a C_3-C_{10} alkylene-glycol is the same glycol as used in the N-alkylation process.

10. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~claims 8 and 9~~ claim 8 wherein ~~in~~ said purification the C_1-C_5-monoalkylether of a C_3-C_{10} alkylene-glycol is 1-methoxy-2-propanol.

11. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~claims 8 to 10~~ claim 8 wherein ~~in~~ said purification the solvent further comprises one or more co-solvents.

12. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 11 wherein said co-solvent comprises C_1-C_4 alkanols and preferably methanol.

13. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~claims 9 to 12~~ claim 9 wherein the amount of said solvent is adjusted to 1.5 to 8 ml of the C_1-C_5-monoalkylether of a C_3-C_{10} alkylene-glycol /g iohexol, to 0-1 ml C_1-C_4 alkanol/g iohexol, and to 0.001-0.3 ml water/g iohexol.

14. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~claims 8 to 13~~ claim 8 ~~where~~ wherein the purification is performed by crystallising the iohexol from said solvent and then separating the crystals from said solvent.

15. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~claims 8 to 14~~ claim 8 wherein the salt content in the reaction mixture of the alkylation reaction is reduced prior to the purification step.

16. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~claims 8 to 15~~ claim 8 wherein the water content in the reaction mixture of the alkylation reaction is reduced prior to the crystallisation step preferably by azeotropic distillation.

17. (Currently amended) A ~~method~~ process as claimed in ~~claims 8 to 16~~ claim 8 ~~where~~ wherein the crystalline iohexol is washed with isopropanol and dried.